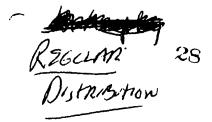
DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY SOURCES METHODS EXEMPTION 3B2B NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT DATE 2006

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BERLIN TASK FORCE

Minutes and Assignments of Meeting, December 21, 1961

1. INR Briefing

Mrs. Mauther provided an intelligence briefing stressing the followin points:

a) Pravda story on possible militant activities along the Berlin border during the Xmas holidays, b) bann on the use of Xmas fireworks in East Berlin, c) and uncement of a TV program in West Berlin containing a Xmas message for West Berline: s from President Kennedy, d) Character and reputation of new appointees to West Berlin Sepat, e) Brandt statement about his impressions of his Paris trip, f) continuing anti-Yeusi Heusinger campaign in the Bloc press including intimations that General Hersinger tried to use NATO troops to stop India's invasion of Goa, g) Newes Deutsci land representative in England asked to leave, h) new emphasis in East German propogends on the "slave traffic in human beings" (refugee flow), i) intelligence reports that the East Germans will make their border patrols on elite corps, j) report that Polish or Czech troops may serve as border guards to underline Warsaw Pact commitment to East German viability, k) installation of steel I—beams in the center strip of the autobalm near Helmstedt, and 1) rumors that the Soviets will place "16 billion" (see) DM worth of industrial orders in West Berlin during June 1962.

2. GDR Harassments on Autobahn During Xmas Holidays

Wr. Kohler in consideration of the fact that there may be some horassment of West German traffic on the autobahn during this period has asked GER to draft a melegram to the field expressing our ideas on the character this harassment might take. We will contact the German Embassy here in an effort to encourage the Federal Republic to develop the administrative machinery to enable it to react to horassments of West German civilian traffic.

3. Economic Countermeasures Problems

Mr. Freshman noted that a response to Ambassador Finletter's telegram in these natters had been drafted. Mr. Kohler suggested that the Economic Advisors it NATO take up the problem of commodity ceilings in Bloc trade. Mr. Freshman stat d that a sesponse is expected from NATO on restricted attendance and participation in the Spanic. Reipzig Fair.

SED Fraktioner Mosting in West Berlin

Mr. Kohler stated that no effort would be made to discourage this meeting in West Berlin.

5. Long Thrust Exercise

General Gray noted that the Joint Chiefs had sent a telegram to General Norstad authorizing this exercise during January. GER will draft a similar telegram to Ameassador Finletter.

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6. Kidnapping of Heins Brandt

Fir. Kohler asked Mr. Cox EUR/P to take action on possible exploitation of this (New York's Telegram 2195).

7. Berlin Clause in Federal Republic Treaties

Mr. Kohler asked that draft notes to the Soviets and Lebanon on this subject be revised by a working group (Kearney (1), an NEA representative, Karl Mauther (S/Q) and Mr. Hillenbrand). The revised drafts would be cabled to the field for comments and would be coordinated tripartitely.

8. US Response to Furor Over Heusinger Note

Mr. Kohler stated that we should avoid further public comments on this subject and allow it to die down as for or this statement, as concerns.